

From: Jason Rainbows
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/10/02 9:53pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement.

Renata B. Hess,

Please reconsider the Microsoft settlement.

I believe that the current settlement is actually IN FAVOR of Microsoft, and will encourage that company to continue their monopolistic practices by handing them yet another market niche held by their competitors and it will irreversibly affect the education industry and other computer software developers.

It will cost Microsoft a small percent of the settlement figure to supply their second-rate products to schools. And then, in six months the schools will have to PAY for the upgrades from Microsoft, and again every time a new upgrade is developed. It's money in the bank for them, to coin a phrase.

This will place a huge monetary burden on our already destitute education industry. Not to mention the millions that schools will have to pay for support and repairs - a staple of all Microsoft programs. And it will essentially take away a market niche just barely held onto by their competitors due to Microsoft's brutal competitive habits.

Microsoft develops poorly written programs that are easy for ANY 12 year old computer user to hack into, and cause trouble in the form of Virus, Worms, Trojan Horses, etc. The Windows program is the most bug filled, virus infected program ever written. Costs to avoid or fix these problems will cost schools millions, and force our children to use software that simply doesn't do what it is made for, even in its most ideal configurations. The only ones to benefit from this is Microsoft.

This trial has been used by Microsoft's lawyers to further its monopolistic positions. I don't know how they managed to turn this into their reward, but it seems that they've done it. If this settlement is allowed to happen in its current form, there will be no stopping Microsoft's monopoly and it will actually encourage their ominous business practices in the future.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

-Jason Rainbows

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"littera scripta manet - non omnis moriar"